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## CONCLUDING OBSERVATIONS

ON THE INTRODUCTORY MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO CONGRESS IN NOVEMBER, 1818.

In congratulating the community on the surplus of cash in the Treasury, as announced in the President's Message, the unpleasant reflection forces itself upon the mind, that there is no security that this surplus will be increased, or that it will even remain as great as it is at present; that is, about two millions of dollars. Indeed, the Secretary of the Treasury, in the Annual Report which we publish this week, prepares the nation for a *deficit* in the ordinary revenue of 1819; and proposes to supply it by an issue of treasury notes or by a loan. This, we must take the liberty of saying, is, in a time of profound peace, not a little startling; and certainly not the less so, when we consider the nature of the causes which the Secretary assigns for the probable failure of the public funds. They are three in number:

1. The over trading of the Banks.
2. The exportation of specie to the East Indies.
3. The temporary failure of the ordinary supply of the precious metals from the Spanish American mines.

With all our respect for Mr. Crawford, and we do assuredly very highly respect him for probity and industry, we are compelled to express an unequivocal opinion that there has been, on this occasion, a want of foresight in the head of the Treasury Department. Every one of the three causes specified, prevailed with as much force in the year 1816 as they do at present. The over-trading of the Banks is coeval with the multiplication of Banks, as the exportation of specie to the East Indies is coeval with the trade to that country; and the failure of the usual supply of the precious metals from the Spanish American mines has been felt for at least six years past. Not to have known these facts, argues want of attention; not to have provided against their effects, argues want of wisdom. It is, however, due to Mr. Crawford to say, that he deserves credit for bring-

ing them, late as the period is, fairly and distinctly to the view of Congress, so that some ingenious and able mind may be drawn to the subject and devise a remedy commensurate with the evil, before our fiscal concerns run into utter confusion. We wish we could carry the compliment to the Secretary farther; but we are obliged to stop short in our commendation at the quality of frankness which he has shown; for it would be rank hypocrisy in us to praise that intellect for superior sagacity, which limits the pernicious consequences of the existing abuses of Banking to a single year. Not one of the causes assigned for the apprehended *deficit* can possibly be removed in a year. Spurious Bank Paper has so engrafted itself into the business of society, that it will require many years to eradicate it: there is no prospect of a speedy resumption of supplies of gold and silver from the Spanish American mines; and as to the trade to India, it will continue, as has been the practice heretofore, as long as the ports of British Asia are open to our navigation; and should they be closed, our specie will still find its way thither through European channels. If, therefore, the *deficit* is to continue whilst the alleged causes of it continue, we may calculate, without a great exertion on the part of the general government, and an honest co-operation on the part of the several state legislatures, upon a ten years' suffering from the ruinous predominance of a deranged Paper Currency, from which idleness and villainy gain every thing, and by which virtuous labor loses half its earnings.

Thoughts like these are sufficient to inspire our best patriots with melancholy. It would, nevertheless, be unjust to impute this condition of things to mismanagement in Mr. Monroe's administration: nor do we level our remarks in an accusatory vein against the Secretary of the Treasury. Had Mr. Crawford earlier seen the exigence; or had he more promptly guarded against it; or, in guarding against it, had he resorted to a radical remedy instead of recommending a mere expedient; he would have attracted to his name and his talents universal and merited applause. As it is, he is not to be positively condemned for the occurrence of difficulties in the receipt of the revenue, of which he is not the author; and which have in truth had their rise more in the cupidity of the state governments than in the mal-conduct of any administration of the general government. The groundwork of this whole fabric of evil is the practice of *selling charters of incorporation*; or, in other words, selling to a portion of the commu-

uity the right of taxing the industry of the People. It is no encouragement of the practice, at least it ought not to be in a republican community, that it is one of the most odious methods to which monarchies ever resorted for raising money. Every person conversant with English history will recollect that the *sale of charters* was one of the pecuniary resources of Charles I. when he attempted to tyrannize over his subjects; and for which, among other things, he was brought to the scaffold. It is with deep regret that every sincere friend of the country will see that the Banking System is one of the bases of our plan of finance. Under the title of "Bank Dividends" and "first payment of Bonus due by the Bank of the United States," the Secretary of the Treasury counts on the receipt of 920,000 dollars, from the operations of that institution, in aid of the expenses of the government for the year 1819. Thus interwoven with the vital concerns of our exchequer, it is much to be feared that the *fatal step* has been taken, to connect our free institutions with a monied establishment, by which, sooner or later, they must be corrupted. Is it not possible to retrace that step?

It is not to be denied, that a Bank of the United States properly organized, with a suitable suppression of fraudulent state banks, is a very desirable object; and we trust that such an one may eventually be instituted. Should Mr. Monroe's administration succeed in substituting for a mixed, anomalous, and irreconcileable currency, one that may be uniform and universal, he would merit and receive the particular benedictions of every worthy citizen of the Republic.

Taking leave of this unpleasant topic, to which we have been led by our observations on the President's Message, we contemplate with pleasure the prosecution of the military defences of the Union, and the progressive increase of our navy. Every cent expended for these purposes, will prove in the end to be real economy. In case of a foreign war, the former will be our immediate shield, the latter our sword of greatest execution. The circumstances of every day serve more and more to convince us, that the Navy is the weapon upon which we must mainly rely for cutting our way to that elevated sphere of empire in which we are destined one day to move. Our army is equally enterprising and brave; but it has not the same wide scope for action. In reference to our future national fortunes, it should never be forgotten that *a Navy is the THREAD by which the British empire is held together: CUT IT, and that empire falls to pieces.*

In speaking of the Indians, the President expresses himself both like a philosopher and a philanthropist. The small success which has

thereto attended every attempt to civilize them, ought, long ago, to have produced doubts whether the course pursued was right. It was Mr. Crawford, whilst he was Secretary of War, to whom we are indebted for a bold *avowal* of the rational opinion that, to civilize the savages, the races of the whites and reds should be intermixed. It is a chemical idea, and was, in the first instance, greatly ridiculed; but if we examine the annals of different nations, we shall find that this idea embraces a profound truth. As metals are softened or hardened by intermixtures, so is human nature refined or barbarized by intermixtures of the several races or descriptions of men. We have read that Rome civilized a considerable portion of the world; and by a revolution, she became comparatively barbarized by the forcible admixture of savage hordes. To this end, doubtless, wars are useful. Wherever the Romans conquered, they introduced their laws, their arts, their sciences, and social customs. When the Barbarians of Northern Asia and of the North of Europe planted themselves in Italy, the ameliorating process still went on. The *mixture* still took place, whether the Romans went to the Barbarians or the Barbarians came to the Romans. When Alexander overthrew Darius, he promoted matrimonial connexions between his captains and the Persian dames, as the best means of giving permanency to his conquests; and William the Norman, after his victory of Hastings, pursued a similar policy in England. Is it not a little singular that our laws contain no provision for the admission of Indians to the rights of citizenship? We have always treated them *as* Indians. A few missionaries and agents have been employed to reform them, it is true, and large sums of money have been expended to effect their reformation; but what has it availed? What could a few solitary teachers do? Hammer or melt copper forever, and it will be copper still: but mix it with gold, and you give it at once a high and current value. The Indian "tribes belonging to our portion of this hemisphere," as the President very truly observes, are distinguished for "loftiness of sentiment and gallantry in action." And is it to be supposed that these high-minded men will cheerfully submit to be held in tutelage by the whites, and treated as a degraded class of beings? Experience has shown us that they will not. Place them, then, upon an equality with the whites: open to them the doors of citizenship *as* you do to foreigners in general: encourage intermarriages with the whites; make them feel that they belong to the nation; that they are a part of it; and you will unquestionably not only civilize them, but you will add to the population of the country, and preserve from utter extinction many

thousands of those unfortunate beings, whose ancestors once lorded it over the land which we now inhabit; whose misfortune it has been never to have had intellectual light and conviction sufficient to rescue them from the hunter state; and whose diminution, according to the increase of the whites, has arisen, not from want of courage, but from their inefficient mode of warfare and want of concert among themselves. We most ardently hope that Congress will, in pursuance of the President's wise and humane recommendation, adopt "some benevolent provisions" for the relief of these ill-fated Aborigines.

The remarks of the Message upon the admission of Illinois to the Union are as just as they are liberal. "The impracticability of one consolidated government for this great and growing nation," is too true to admit of a doubt. It is, in fact, true, not only as it regards this country, but it is true as it respects every nation of great territorial extent. Whether the government be despotic or free, there must be sub-divisions of territory and sub governments for the management of local affairs. Turkey, Russia, and France, are divided into provinces or departments, with provincial or departmental administrations, each according to the nature of the national government to which it belongs; for, in the political as in the physical world, *like begets like*.

Touching on the theme of state governments, we have reflected with pleasure upon the facility with which republican constitutions are framed in the United States. Men of the most ordinary education find no difficulty in forming them. The principles are as plain as those of almost any mechanical trade; and whilst in Europe men of the most profound learning are puzzling their brains about constitutional charters, the practical common sense of our citizens, even in the wilderness, is sufficient to organize a government that shall afford every possible security for the enjoyment of the rights of man. This shows how far we are ahead of all the world in the science of government. The whole secret lies in the establishment of the freedom of the press, the trial by jury, the independence of judges, liberty of conscience, and the freedom of election. So deeply are the American people imbued with accurate ideas of liberty; so familiar are they with what is essential to political happiness, that it is no more difficult for them to frame a good constitution of government than it is for a carpenter to construct a dwelling house. In such a community tyranny can find no foothold, and must *slip* at the very first step it attempts to take.

In concluding our observations on the Message, we advert only for a moment to that part of it

which relates to the District of Columbia. If we comprehend the President, he wishes something like the institution of a District Legislature. If this can be done without infringing the constitution of the United States, or impairing the force of our confederation, we confess that we should feel happy. But we do not very clearly perceive how it can be effected. The legislation of Congress, under the 8th section of the 1st article of the constitution, must be "*exclusive in all cases whatsoever*," or it will not be legal. Congress can no more substitute a legislature for the District of Columbia than they can substitute, in their own place, a legislature for the Union; and if they could, we doubt the *policy* of their doing so. It would probably save them no trouble. The acts of the substituted legislature would necessarily be subject to the supervision of the Congress; and the likelihood is that this latter body would be more intruded upon by a District Legislature than they are at present by the citizens. But, do the people of the District of Columbia *wish* for such a change? Do they *wish* for it *now*? Are they willing to incur the additional expense which the pay of a legislature and of District officers would bring upon them? We very much doubt whether, if the question were put to the vote, the people would assent to it.

Meanwhile, it is very agreeable to find that Judge Cranch has reported a new Code of Laws for the District. From the studious and investigating habits of the judge we are led to expect a very excellent compilation. The code is now before a committee of Congress, who will act upon it during the present session. Although we are disinclined, and especially at this time, to the establishment of a District Legislature, we are persuaded that it would be proper, in the case of this Body of Laws, affecting, as we suppose it does, the lives and property of the citizens in almost every particular, to submit it, in some shape, to their sanction, discrimination, or rejection; either immediately, to their own suffrages; or meditately, to a convention of deputies to be chosen by them.

#### ANNUAL TREASURY REPORT.

*Transmitted to both Houses of Congress, Nov. 23.*

In obedience to the directions of the "Act supplementary to the Act to establish the Treasury Department," the Secretary of the Treasury respectfully submits the following Report and Estimates:

#### REVENUE.

The Net Revenue arising from duties upon imports and tonnage, internal duties, direct tax, public lands, postage and incidental receipts, during the year 1816, amounted to \$6,743,974 71

viz:

Customs	27,550,779 71
Internal duties	4,396,133 28
Direct tax	2,726,233 28

Public Lands, exclusive of Mississippi  
pi Stock, 1,754,487 33  
Postage and Incidental Receipts 237,840 53

And that which accrued from the same sources during the year 1817, amounted to 24,387,993 08  
viz:

Customs (see statement A.) 17,547,540 89  
Internal duties and direct tax (see statement B.) 4,512,287 81

Public lands exclusive of Mississippi stock (see statement C.) 2,015,977

Postage and incidental receipts 312,187 38

It is ascertained that the gross amount of duties on merchandise and tonnage, which have accrued during the three first quarters of the present year, exceeds \$ 21,000,000, and that the sales of the public lands, during the same period, greatly exceed, both in quantity and value, those of the corresponding quarters of the last year.

The payments into the Treasury during the three first quarters of the year, are estimated to amount to 17,167,862 26  
viz:

Customs 13,401,409 65  
Internal revenue and direct tax 993,574 36

Public lands, exclusive of Mississippi pi stock 1,875,731 20  
Interest upon bank dividends 525,000

Postage and Incidental Receipts 49,438 19

Repayments into the Treasury 322,708 86

And the payments into the Treasury during the fourth quarter of the year, from the same sources, are estimated at

5,000,000

Making the total amount estimated, to be received into the Treasury during the year 1818, 23,167,860 26  
Which, added to the balance in the Treasury on the 1st day of Jan, last, exclusive of 8,800,372 10 in Treasury Notes, amounting to

6,179,383 38

Makes the aggregate amount of  
The application of this sum, for the year 1818, is estimated as follows, viz.

To the 30th September, the payments (exclusive of 9,148,237 40 of Treasury Notes, which had been drawn from the Treasury and cancelled) have amounted to

16,760,537 05

Civil, diplomatic and miscellaneous expenses 3,280,306 23

Military service including arrearage 5,620,263 08

Naval service including the permanent appropriation for the gradual increase of the Navy 2,383,000

Public debt, exclusive of the 9,148,237 40 of Treasury Notes, which have been drawn out of the Treasury and cancelled

5,467,267 60

During the fourth quarter it is estimated that the payments will amount to 9,475,000  
viz:

Civil, diplomatic and miscellaneous expenses 520,000

Military service 1,175,000

Naval service 575,000

Public debt from 1st Jan. 1819 7,205,000

Making the aggregate amount of

26,235,337 05

And leaving, on the first day of January, 1819, a balance in the Treasury, estimated at

2,113,408 59

OF THE PUBLIC DEBT.

The Public Debt which was contracted before the year 1812, and which was unredeemed on the first day of October, 1817, as appears by statement (1) amounted to

31,835,738 29

By the same statement it appears that the funded debt contracted subsequent to the first day of January, 1812, amounted to

68,071,923 14

Making together the aggregate amount of

99,907,721 43

Which sum agrees with the statement of the unredeemed amount, on the first day of October, 1817, as per last report, excepting the sum of 4,123 98 over estimated, and which has not been corrected by actual settlement.

On the first day of January, there was added to the amount, for Treasury Notes brought into the Treasury and cancelled, and for which the following stock was issued, viz:

In six per cent. stock 234,422 10  
In seven per cent. stock 99,019

333,441 19

100,921,162 63

From which deduct seven per cent. stock, purchased in the fourth quarter of 1817

332,984 60

And also the reimbursement of old six per cent stock, and deferred, between first October, 1817, and first January, 1818

800,830 09

1,133,815 39

Making the public debt which was unredeemed on the first January, 1818, per statement (2) amount to

99,107,346 98

From the first January, to thirtieth September, 1818, incursive, there was, by finding Treasury Notes and three per cent. stock, (20,08) issued, added to the public debt, as appears by statement (3) the amount of

73,795 49

99,181,142 44

From which deduct the amount of stock purchased and redeemed during that period, per statement (4)

415,933 87

And also the estimated amount of the final reimbursement of the old six per cent. stock

700,312 03

And the estimated reimbursement of the deferred six per cent. stock

230,401 76

930,713 79

1,355,707 66

Making on that day, as appears by statement (3) the aggregate amount of

97,825,434 78

Since the thirtieth September there has been redeemed, or provision made for the redemption of a moiety of the Louisiana stock, unpaid on the first October, 1818

4,977,580

And there will be reimbursed, of the principal of the deferred six per cent. stock, on the first day of January, 1819, by estimate

232,001 63

5,230,041 65

There will remain unredeemed by estimate, on the first day of January, 1819, the sum of

92,895,303 15

By statement (5) the Treasury Notes which are yet in circulation, are estimated at

297,500 00

By statement (6) it appears that the whole of the awards made by the commissioners appointed under the several acts for indemnifying certain claimants of public lands, amount to

4,282,151 12

Of which sum there has been received at the office of the Commissioner of the General Land Office, as appears by statement C, the sum of

1,026,484 00

Leaving outstanding at the date of the several returns from the land districts, the sum of

3,255,467 00

It is proper to observe, however, that extensive sales have been made in the Alabama territory, in the months of September, October, and November, of which no returns have yet been received.

Of the Estimates of the Public Revenue and Expenditure for the year 1819.

In the annual report of the state of the Treasury, of the fifth of December, 1817, the permanent revenue was estimated at \$ 24,525,000 per annum, and the annual expenditure, according to the then existing laws, was stated at \$ 21,946,351 74.

By the acts of the last session of Congress, the internal duties, estimated at \$ 2,500,000 per annum, were repealed, whilst the expenditure

was augmented to nearly \$ 25,060,000; and that of the ensuing year is estimated at not less than \$ 24,515,219 76.

The apparent deficit produced by these acts, and by the application of more than \$ 2,500,000

to the payment of the interest and redemption of the principal of the public debt, beyond the annual appropriation of \$10,000,000 for that object, has been supplied by the receipts into the Treasury on account of the arrearage of the direct tax and internal duties, and by the balance of more than \$6,000,000, which was in the Treasury on the first day of January, 1818.

These temporary sources of supply being nearly exhausted, the expenditure of the year 1819 must principally depend upon the receipts into the Treasury from the permanent revenue during that year. As was anticipated in the last annual report, the reaction produced by the excessive importations of foreign merchandise, during the years 1813 and 1816, acquired its greatest force in the year 1817.

It is presumed that the revenue which shall accrue during the present year from imports and tonnage, may be considered as the average amount which will be annually received from that source of the revenue.

It is ascertained that the bonds taken for securing duties, which were outstanding on the thirtieth day of Sept. last, exceeded \$2,000,000; and the receipts into the Treasury, from that source of revenue, during the year 1819, is estimated at

Public Lands	21,000,000
Direct tax and internal duties	1,309,000
Bank Dividends, at six per cent.	750,000
First payment of Bonus, due by the Bank of the United States	429,000
Postage and incidental receipts	500,000
Amounting together to	24,220,000
Which, added to the balance in the Treasury on the first day of January, 1819, estimated at	2,112,408 54
Makes the aggregate amount of	26,232,408 59
The probable authorized demands on the Treasury, during the year 1819, are estimated to amount to	24,515,219 76
viz:	
Civ., Diplomatic and Miscellaneous expenses	2,619,836 31
Military Department, including the Indian Department, permanent Indian annuities, military and revolutionary pensions, and arming the militia	8,666,252 85
Navy Department, including 1,000,000 for the gradual increase of the navy	3,802,486 60
Public Buildings, and for discharging the demands of the contractors for making the Cumberland road	326,644
Public Debt	10,000,000
For building custom houses and public warehouses at New Orleans and other ports	100,000
Which, being deducted from the amount estimated to be received into the Treasury, including the balance on the first day of January, 1819, leaves a balance in the Treasury, on the first day of January, 1820, of	2,717,183 83

In presenting this estimate of receipts for the year 1819, it is necessary to premise, that the sum to be received from the customs is less than what, from the amount of the outstanding bonds, would, under ordinary circumstances, be received. The amount of the sales of public lands during the last year, and the sum due at this time by the purchasers, would justify a much higher estimate of the receipts from that important branch of revenue, if the most serious difficulty, in making payments, was not known to exist. The excessive issues of the banks, during the suspension of specie payments, and the great exportation of the precious metals to the East Indies during the pre-

sent year, have produced a pressure upon them, which has rendered it necessary to contract their discounts, for the purpose of withdrawing from circulation a large proportion of their notes. This operation, so oppressive to their debtors, but indispensably necessary to the existence of specie payments, must be continued, until gold and silver shall form a just proportion of the circulating currency. In passing through this ordeal, punctuality in the discharge of debts, both to individuals and to the government, will be considerably impaired, and well founded apprehensions are entertained, that, until it is passed, payments, in some of the Land Districts, will be greatly diminished.

The extent to which the payments into the Treasury, during the year 1819, will be affected by the general pressure upon the community, which has been described, and which is the inevitable consequence of the over trading of the banks, and the exportation of specie to the East Indies, aggravated by the temporary failure of the ordinary supply of the precious metals from the Spanish American mines, cannot at this time be correctly appreciated. Should it exceed what has been contemplated in this report, the appropriations must be diminished, the revenue enlarged by new impositions, or temporary loans authorized to meet the deficiency. As the expenditure of the year 1820 will be greatly reduced by the irredeemable quality of the public debt, after the redemption of the remaining moiety of the Louisiana stock, which may be effected on the 21st day of October, 1819, a resort to temporary loans, or to the issue of Treasury notes, to the amount of the deficiency, should any occur, is believed to be preferable to the imposition of new taxes, which would not be required after that year.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. H. CRAWFORD.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,  
November 21st, 1818.

#### REPORT OF MR. GRAHAM.

Mr. Graham to the Secretary of State.

CITY OF WASHINGTON, 5th Nov. 1813.

SIR,—Mr. Rodney having undertaken to draw up, for our joint signature, a report respecting the present situation of the country we recently visited under the orders of the President, and circumstances having prevented him from presenting it to me for perusal, until his late arrival in this city, I was not aware, until then, that I should have occasion to present to you my individual views on that subject. But, on an attentive perusal of the paper he drew up, I found that, although there was not perhaps any important fact on which we essentially differed, yet that some were stated of which I was not aware; and that we had taken views which it might be difficult to combine during the short time then allowed to us, and of which it might be proper that you should be put in possession. Under these circumstances, I thought it better to submit to the disadvantage of hastily throwing my observations together, and of presenting them separately, than to ask him to derange the general tenor of his report by introducing them into it.

The arrival of Mr. Bland, who will necessarily make a separate report, will, I trust, reconcile the President to the course I have taken; as, from a

combined view of what we individually state, he may, perhaps, be better enabled to draw his own inferences as to the actual situation and future prospects of the country we visited, than from any joint report in which we could all have agreed, as, under ordinary circumstances, that must have been the result of a compromise of opinions, and would probably have excluded some facts, or some views, which one or the other of us will, in the mode now adopted, present to you.

In my particular situation, however, I thought it less necessary to go into detail, as I knew that the report of Mr. Rodney would furnish information on points which I omit.

With great respect, I have the honor to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

JOHN GRAHAM.

*The Hon. J. Q. Adams, Secretary of State.*

The country formerly known as the viceroyalty of Buenos Ayres, extending from the north western sources of the river La Plata to the southern cape of America, and from the confines of Brasil and the ocean to the ridge of the Andes may be considered as that which is called "The United Provinces of South America."

Under the royal government, it was divided into the intendencies or provinces of Buenos Ayres, Paraguay, Cordova, Salta, Potosi, Plata, Cochabamba, La Paz, and Puno. Subsequently to the revolution, in the year 1814, another division was made; and from the provinces of Cordova, Salta, and Buenos Ayres, were taken those of Cuyo or Mendoza, Tucuman, Corrientes, Entre Rios, and the Banda Oriental. The others, it is believed, retained their former boundaries, and, with the exception of Paraguay, are generally called "Upper Peru."

This widely extended country embraces almost every variety of climate and soil, and is capable of almost every variety of production. A large part of it, however, particularly on the west side of the river La Plata, and southerly towards Cape Horn, is deficient in wood, even for fuel, and in water; that which is found is generally brackish.

Although three centuries have passed by since the Spaniards made their first settlement in this country, and some considerable towns and cities have grown in it, yet its general improvement and population have by no means kept pace with them; for the lower provinces have been almost entirely abandoned to the immense herds of cattle which graze on their plains, and require only the partial care of a comparatively few herdsmen; and the inhabitants of Upper Peru have been engaged more generally in the business of mining than was favorable to improvement or population. Certain small districts, having peculiar advantages, are said to be well cultivated, and very productive; but agriculture has, in general, been very much neglected. It is, in a great degree, confined to the vicinity of the towns and cities, and may be said to limit its supplies to their demands. This state of things, combined with the regulations of the former government, the influence of climate, and the force of example, has stamped the character of indolence upon that class of society usually considered as the laboring class. The same causes have not operated, at least not with the same force, upon the other inhabitants of the country, hence they are more industrious and more active. Their manners are social, friendly, and polite. In native talents they are said to be

inferior to no people; and they have given proofs that they are capable of great and persevering efforts; that they are ardently attached to their country, and warmly enlisted in the cause of its independence.

It is not necessary for me to enter into a detail of the causes which led to the revolution in 1810. The most immediate perhaps are to be found in the incidents connected with the two invasions of the country by the British, in the years 1805 and 1806, and in the subsequent events in Spain, as they had a direct tendency to show to these people their own strength, and the incapacity of Spain to give them protection or enforce obedience. The ground work was, however, laid in the jealous and oppressive system adopted at a more early period by the kings of Spain, whose policy it seemed to be to keep, within as narrow limits as circumstances would permit, the intelligence, wealth, and population, of that part of America subject to their dominion, as the surest means of preserving an empire which they considered the great source of their wealth and power.

The revolution having been auspiciously commenced in the city of Buenos Ayres, was warmly and zealously supported by the great mass of the people descended from the Spaniards; but the native Spaniards, as well those domesticated in the country as those in the service of the king, were almost all opposed to it, particularly at the time, and under the circumstances, it took place. Dissensions were the immediate result, and their long standing jealousy and distrust of each other, have by subsequent events been heightened into deadly hostility, which time alone can wear away. These dissensions have been considered as one of the causes that produced those which subsequently took place amongst the patriots themselves, and which have been most serious obstacles to the progress of the revolution. Other obstacles, however, have been presented by the royal government in Peru, which has hitherto not only been able to maintain itself there, but has found means, by enlisting the native Peruvians into its service, to send at different times considerable armies into the upper provinces on the La Plata, where the war has been carried on from the commencement of the revolution to the present day with various success; the great extent and peculiar character of the country, and the want of resources, having prevented either party from making a blow decisive of the contest. When we came away, the advantage in that quarter was on the side of the Spaniards, as they were in possession of the provinces of Upper Peru, which had, to a certain degree at least, joined in the revolution, and some of which are represented in the Congress. Every where else they have been obliged to yield up the government and abandon the country, or submit to the ruling power. The peculiar situation of Monte Video, on the east side of the river La Plata, open to the sea, and strongly fortified, enabled the Spanish naval and military forces, at an early period in the revolution, to make a stand there; they were ultimately obliged to surrender it; not, however, until long protracted, and perhaps ill directed efforts on the part of the assailants, had given rise to many jarring incidents between those who came from the opposite shores of the river, probably the effect, in part at least, of ancient jealousies, kept alive by the individual interest of particular leaders; these have been followed by events calcu-

lated to produce a still greater alienation; and, although several attempts have been made to bring about a union, they have hitherto been unsuccessful. The provinces of the "Banda Oriental," and the "Entre Ríos," on the eastern side of the river, under the direction of general Artigas, are now at war with those on the western side, under the government of the congress at Buenos Ayres.

This war has originated from a combination of causes, in which both parties have, perhaps, something to complain of, and something to blame themselves for.

General Artigas and his followers profess a belief that it is the intention of the government of Buenos Ayres to put them down, and oblige them to submit to such arrangements as will deprive them of the privileges of self-government, to which they claim to have a right. They say, however, that they are willing to unite with the people on the western side of the river, but not in such a way as will subject them to what they call the tyranny of the city of Buenos Ayres. On the other hand, it is stated that this is merely a pretext; that the real object of general Artigas and some of his principal officers is to prevent a union on any terms, and to preserve the power they have acquired, by giving an erroneous excitement to the people who follow them. That it is wished, and intended to place these provinces on a footing with the others. That the respectable portion of their inhabitants are aware of this fact, and anxious for a union; but are prevented from openly expressing their sentiments, from a fear of general Artigas, whose power is uncontrolled by law or justice, and hence the propensity and necessity of aiding them to resist it. Armies have accordingly been marched within the present year into these provinces; but they were not joined by a number of the inhabitants, and were defeated with great loss.

This war is evidently a source of great injury and regret, and at the same time of extraordinary irritation to both parties; for, independently of other causes of recrimination, each accuses the other of having brought about that state of things which threatens to place a most important and valuable portion of their country in the hands of a foreign power, who has invaded it with a regular and well appointed army, and is gradually taking possession of commanding points, from which it may be difficult for their united force hereafter to dislodge them. That they will unite is, I think, to be calculated on, unless some event, disastrous to the cause of the revolution itself, takes place; for their mutual interest requires a union. But more of moderation and discretion may be necessary to bring it about, than is at this time to be expected from the irritated feelings of some of the principal personages on both sides.

The city of Santa Fe, and a small district of country around it, also refuse to acknowledge the authority of the government of Buenos Ayres.

In Paraguay the effects of the revolution have differed from those in any other province, as the inhabitants of that country have uniformly resisted the efforts of the other provinces to unite them. After having aided the Spanish, placed over them, to repel a military force which had been sent to overthrow them, they themselves expelled from the country these authorities, and established a government of their own, totally unconnected with that of other provinces, with whom they manifested an unwillingness to keep up even a com-

mercial intercourse. This has given rise to a suspicion, in the minds of some, that there is a secret predilection among them for the ancient order of things. But, from what is said of their cold and calculating character—from the safe position of their country, and its capacity to supply its own wants, it is probable that their object is to husband their resources, and profit by the exertions of others, without giving their own in aid of them; and possibly, in case of ultimate failure, to place their conduct in a less objectionable point of view before the government of Spain. Whatever may have been their motives, they have hitherto contrived to escape, in a great measure, the evils of war.

Their resources, in men and money, are said to be considerable, and no country is more independent of foreign supplies.

Their conduct furnishes a striking contrast to that of the people of Buenos Ayres, who entered into the revolution with unbounded zeal and energy, and have ever been ready to meet the difficulties of so great an undertaking. This circumstance, connected with their local situation, greater resources, and more general information, and perhaps the fact of their having been the first to get power into their hands, have had the effect to give them a controlling influence over the revolutionary government, which has not failed to excite, in some degree, the jealousy of the other provinces, and amongst themselves a feeling of superiority little calculated to allay their jealousy. Great evils were, at one time, apprehended from this state of things; but the congress which met at Tucuman, in March, 1816, composed of deputies from the several provinces then united, assumed the sovereign power of the country, boldly declared its absolute independence, and adopted a provisional form of government, which is understood to have the effect of allaying dissension, and of introducing a more regular administration of public affairs.

It will be seen from the documents in your possession, that this provisional constitution recognises many of the principles of free government; but with such drawbacks as are little calculated to enforce them in practice. Great allowances are doubtless to be made for the circumstances of the times, and the danger and difficulty of tearing up ancient institutions, or of adapting new principles to them. But, after due allowance for all these considerations, it did not appear to me that so much had been done for the cause of civil liberty as might have been expected, or that those in power were its strongest advocates. It is generally admitted, however, that some changes for the better have been made. Much care seems to be taken to educate the rising generation, and, as those who are now coming on the theatre of action have grown up since the commencement of the revolution, and have had the advantage of the light thrown in by it, it is fair to suppose that they will be better prepared to support and administer a free government, than those whose habits were formed under the colonial government of Spain.

The commerce and manufactures of the country have grown beyond its agriculture. Various causes, however, have contributed to lessen some branches of manufacture since the revolution, but commerce is understood to have been increased by it. A much greater variety and quantity of foreign goods are imported, and a greater demand

is opened for the productions of the country.—The city of Buenos Ayres is the seat of this commerce: from it foreign, and some domestic goods, are spread through the interior, as far as Chile and Upper Peru, and, in return, the various productions are drawn to it. This trade is carried on principally by land, as is that between the different provinces, though some small portion of it finds its way up and down the large rivers forming the La Plata, which is itself not so much a river as a great bay. The abundance of cattle, horses, and mules, and of some other animals peculiar to the country, which are used in the mountainous regions of Peru, furnish facilities for transportation, not to be found in any other country so little improved; hence the price of transportation is very low, and the internal trade greater than it otherwise would be, though it had been materially lessened in some important branches by the war with Peru, and the system adopted in Paraguay.

The export and import trade is principally in the hands of the British, though the United States and other nations participate in it to a certain degree. It is depended on as the great source of revenue to the state; hence they have been tempted to make the duties very high, and to lay them upon both imports and exports, with the exception of lumber and military stores. This circumstance, connected with the fact that payment is demanded at the custom house before the goods are delivered, has led to a regular system of smuggling, which is said to be carried on to great excess, and doubtless occasions the official returns to fall short of the actual amount of the trade.—This may be the reason why they were not given to us. The articles imported are almost every variety of European and East India goods, principally from England. Rum, sugar, coffee, tobacco, cotton, and timber from Brasil. Lumber of almost every description, cod fish furniture, gin, and some smaller articles, from the United States, together with military stores; which, however, find their way into the country directly from Europe, and are thus furnished at a cheaper rate than we can sell them. The principal articles of export are taken from the various animals of the country, tame and wild, from the ox to the chinchilla—copper from Chile, and some of the precious metals drawn principally from Peru; but as gold is worth \$ 17 the oz. and passed by tale at that rate, very little of it is exported; hence the currency of the country is gold, for they have no paper money. The "Libranzas," or bills of credit issued by the government, are, however, an article of traffic among the merchants, as they are received in payment of one half of the duties.—No distinction is made in favor of the trade of any nation, save only that the British merchants have some facilities granted them in relation to their letters, which are an object of taxation, at least so far as applies to those sent out of the country.

In the official statement given to us, and to which I beg leave generally to refer for information as to the foreign relations, the productions, military and naval force, revenue, and population, the latter is stated at 1,300,000, exclusive of Indians. This is understood as comprehending the population of all the provinces; but, as some of them are not under the government of Buenos Ayres I have thought it proper to annex the several estimates I collected of the population of each province, as they may serve to give some general

information on that point. The most immediate difficulty felt by the government, whilst we were in the country, seemed to arise from the want of money; for, although the debt was small, their credit was low. It had not been found practicable to adopt a system of finance adequate to the exigencies of the time, though it would seem, from the statement given to us, that the revenue of the last year exceeded the expenses. The important events of the present year in Chile, of which you are informed, will doubtless have the effect to raise the credit of the country, and to lessen the pressure upon it, at least for a time, and will probably leave the government more at leisure to attend to its internal affairs.

When we came away, it was understood that a committee of the congress was engaged in drafting a new constitution, the power of forming and adopting it being exclusively vested in the congress. Whether it will assume a federal or a national character, is somewhat doubtful, as there are evidently two parties in the country, whose views, in this respect, are very different, and it is believed that they are both represented in the congress. The one party is in favor of a consolidated or national government, the other wishes for a federal government, somewhat upon the principles of that of the United States. The probability seems to be, that, although there might be a majority of the people in the provinces generally in favor of the federal system, that it would not be adopted upon the ground that it was not so well calculated as a national government to provide for the common defence, the great object now in view. The same general reason may be urged, perhaps, for giving to the latter, should it be adopted, less of a republican character than probably would have been given to it in more quiet and peaceful times. There is danger, too, as the power of forming and adopting the constitution is placed in the hands of a few, that the rights and privileges of the people may not be so well understood or attended to as they would have been had the people themselves had a more immediate agency in the affair. It is not to be doubted, however, that it will at least have a republican form, and be bottomed upon the principles of independence, which is contended for by all descriptions of politicians in the country, who have taken part in the revolution, and will, it is believed, be supported by them, in any event, to the last extremity.

Their means of defence, of which they are fully aware, are, in proportion to their numbers, greater, perhaps, than those of almost any other people, and the duration and events of the war have strengthened the general determination never to submit to Spain. This determination rests upon the recollection, former sufferings, and deprivations; upon a consciousness of their ability to defend and to govern themselves; and upon a conviction that, in case of submission, on any terms, they would, sooner or later, be made to feel the vengeance of the mother country. These considerations, doubtless, have the most weight upon the minds of those who have taken a leading part. They, of course, use all their influence to enforce them, and thus to keep up the spirit of the revolution. In this they probably have had the less difficulty, as, although the sufferings of the people have been great, particularly in military service, and in raising the contributions necessary for that service, yet the incubus of Spanish pow-

er being thrown off, and with it that train of followers who filled up almost every avenue to wealth and consequence, the higher classes have been awakened to a sense of advantages they did not before enjoy. They have seen their commerce freed from legal restraints, their articles of export become more valuable; their supplies furnished at a lower rate; and all the officers of government, or other employments, laid open to them as fair objects of competition. The lower classes have found their labor more in demand and better paid for; and their importance in society greater than it formerly was.

They are yet, however, from their indolence, general want of education, and the great mixture of "casts" among them, in a very degraded state, and little felt in the affairs of the government—The stimulus now given will operate to produce a change in them for the better, and, it is to be presumed, will gradually have its effect, as their docility, intelligence, and activity, when called into service, give evidence that they are not deficient in natural or physical powers.

Labor, as it becomes more general, will become less irksome to individuals, and the gradual acquisition of property, which must necessarily result from it in such a country, under a good government, will doubtless produce the happy effects there, which it has uniformly produced elsewhere, and more especially in countries where the population is small when compared to the extent of territory.

I am very sensible that I may have been led into errors of fact, or inference. In that case I can plead honesty of intention, and the difficulty of collecting at a single point, and within a limited time, correct information; or of analyzing that which was collected, respecting a people in a state of revolution, who are spread over an immense country, and whose habits, institutions, and language, are so different from our own.

I have only to add, that we were politely received by the supreme director, who made every profession for our government, and every offer of accommodation to us, as its agents, which we had a right to expect, and that the people manifested, on all occasions, the most friendly dispositions.

*Estimate of the population of the provinces of Buenos Ayres, Cordova, Tucuman, Mendoza or Cuyo, and Salta, under the names of the different towns or districts which send representatives to the congress.*

	By an imperfect Census, taken, it is believed, in 1815. 98,103 sons and Indians.	By more recent estimates, excluding Indians.	Excluding Indians.	Including Indians.
Buenos Ayres,	103,000	120,000	250,000	
Cordova,	75,000	75,000	100,000	
Tucuman,	45,000	45,000	20,000	
Santiago del Estero,	45,000	60,000		
Valle de Callanarca,	36,000	40,000		
Rioja,	20,000	20,000		
San Juan,	34,000	34,000		
Mendoza,	38,000	33,000		
San Luis,	16,000	16,000		
Injuy,	23,000	25,000		
Salta,	50,000	50,000		
	489,000	523,000		

Provinces of Upper Peru.				
Cochabamba,	100,000	120,000	200,000	
Potosi,	112,000	112,000	250,000	
Plata, or Chóreas,	112,000	112,000	175,000	
La Paz,			300,000	
Puno,	Under the name of			
Santa Cruz de la Sierra	120,000		130,000	
Oriente			150,000	
			150,000	
Paraguay			300,000	

#### Banda Oriental and

Entre Ríos 50,000

\* Probably the town only.

† Under the various names of Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Majos, and Chequitos.

*Note.* It is not understood that any part of the province of Corrientes, or that of the city or district of Santa Fe, is included in this estimate; and some districts of some of the other provinces may be omitted.

Together with the reports from our commissioners, were transmitted to Congress the several documents therein referred to, comprising the following papers:

#### APPENDIX.

- A. Funes' outlines.
- B. The manifesto of independence by the congress of Buenos Ayres.
- C. Declaration of independence of Chile.
- D. Translation of various documents furnished by the government of Buenos Ayres.
- E. Provisional statute.
- F. Original report of the secretary of war of Buenos Ayres.
- H. Correspondence between Alvarez and agents of Artigas
- I. Letters from Artigas to Pueyrredon.
- J. Correspondence with the Portuguese general.
- K. British arrangements with Artigas.
- L. Original prize code.

#### FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

##### FRANCE.

*Paris, October 12, 1818.*—It is announced that a convention was signed on the 9th by the plenipotentiaries assembled at Aix-la-Chapelle, and that in consequence of it, the troops of occupation will have quitted the French territory on the 30th of November. France, by the terms of the treaty of the 20th of November, 1815, will still have to pay 265 millions, of which 100 millions will be paid in public stock, at the current price, on the fifth of this month. We owed 140 millions for each of the two last years; we shall pay but 265 millions; it is, therefore, a deduction of 15 millions that is made, besides the advantage of the discount upon the 100 millions to be paid in stock. It is asserted that the emperor Alexander and the king of Prussia will, on the 19th and 20th inst. review their troops, who will then proceed to their destination.

##### SPAIN.

[The following articles are given as official, under the head of "Madrid, September 17, 1818."]

Having judged it expedient to remove D. Joseph Garcia Leon y Pizarro from his office of my secretary of state and despatches, I appoint as his suc-

cessor, *par interim*, the marquis de Caza Irujo, my honorary counsellor of state. By these presents it is made known, in order to be communicated to all whom it may concern.

Signed by the king's hand, at the palace,  
the 14th September, 1818.

To Don Francois Egnia.

I have removed D. Joseph Vasquez Figueroa from his office of secretary of state and the marine, and by virtue hereof appoint it to be filled by lieutenant general D. Baltihasa Hidalgo de Cisneros, captain general of the department of Cadiz. Until his arrival in the capital, this department is under your charge.

Signed by the king's hand at the palace,  
the 14th September, 1818.

To Don Francois Egnia.

In consideration of the bad state of the health of D. Martin de Garay, and that he may be enabled to recover it, I have removed him from his office of secretary of state, and of the finances, of Spain and the Indies. I appoint, as his successor, *par interim*, D. Joseph Imaz, my counsellor of finances, and first director general of Rentas. By these presents it is made known to you.

Signed by the king's hand at the palace,  
the 14th September, 1818.

To Don Francois Egnia.

#### HOME AFFAIRS.

##### GEORGIA.

*Milledgeville, Nov. 2, 1818.*—The incident we are about to relate, (an imperfect account of which has heretofore been given) deserves to be recorded.

Mr. Duncan M'Krimmon, a resident of this town, was a Georgia militiaman in the service of the United States, during the late Seminole war. While stationed at Fort Gadsden on the Appalachicola, he one morning went fishing, and in attempting to return missed his way, and was several days lost in the surrounding wilderness. After wandering about in various directions, he was espied and captured by a party of hostile Indians, headed by the well known prophet Francis, who had an elegant uniform, a fine brace of pistols, and a British commission of brigadier general, which he exultingly showed to the prisoner. Having obtained the satisfaction they wanted respecting the strength and position of the American army, they began to prepare for the intended sacrifice. M'Krimmon was placed at a stake, and the ruthless savages having shaved his head, and reduced his body to a state of nudity, formed themselves into a circle and danced around him several hours, yelling all the while most horribly. The youngest daughter of the prophet (who is about 15 years of age, and represented by officers of the army, we have conversed with, to be a woman very superior to her associates,) was sad and silent the whole time—she participated not in the general joy, but was evidently, even to the affrighted prisoner, much pained at the savage scene she was compelled to witness. When the fatal tomahawk was raised to terminate forever the mortal existence of the unfortunate M'Krimmon, at that critical, that awful, moment, MOLLY FRANCIS, like an angel of mercy, placed herself between it and death, resolutely bidding the astonished executioner, if he thirsted for human blood, to shed hers; being determined, she said, not to survive the prisoner's death. A momentary pause was produced by this unexpected occur-

rence, and she took advantage of this circumstance to implore the pity of her ferocious father; who finally yielded to her wishes; with the intention, however, it is believed, of murdering them both, if he could not sell M'Krimmon to the Spaniards, which was luckily effected a few days after at St. Marks, for *seven gallons and a half of rum*.

As long as he remained a prisoner, M'Krimmon's benefactress continued to show him acts of kindness. Now, the fortune of war has placed her in the power of the white people; she arrived at Fort Gadsden not long since with a number of others that had surrendered, in a starving condition. We are gratified to learn, that a proper respect for her virtues induced the commanding officer, colonel Arbuckle, to relieve her immediate wants. M'Krimmon appears to have a due sense of the obligation he owes to the woman who saved his life at the hazard of her own—he left town last week to seek her, and, as far as may be in his power, to alleviate her misfortunes. It is also his firm determination, we understand, if she will consent, to make her his wife, and reside, provided he can prevail upon her to do so, within the settled parts of Georgia.

It thus appears that rude and uncultivated minds are susceptible of the finest sensibility, of the warmest attachments, of the most inviolable friendship—and that they sometimes display virtues which would do credit to a people the most refined and enlightened.

##### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

*Letter of the Chief Judge of the Circuit Court of the United States for the District of Columbia, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

Sir.—The undersigned, one of the judges of the circuit court for the District of Columbia, has the honor to present, for the consideration of Congress, a code of jurisprudence for that District, prepared under the authority of the act of the 29th of April, 1816, entitled "An act authorizing the judges of the circuit court, and the attorney for the District of Columbia, to prepare a code of jurisprudence for the said district."

It is to be regretted, that the engagements of the gentlemen intended by that act to have been associated with him in the business, have deprived the public of the benefit of their labors. This circumstance will, in part, account for the lateness of the period at which the report is made. It is, however, a work which could not have been hastily done; for, although the District is small, yet almost every case requiring the interposition of law, which can arise in the largest nation, may arise in this District, and ought to be provided for.

In preparing a substitute for the existing statute law, it was necessary, if possible, to ascertain what that law was. This was not an easy task.

By the act of Congress of the 27th of February, 1801, the laws of Virginia, as they then existed, were to remain in force in that part of the District which was ceded by Virginia, and the laws of Maryland in that part which was ceded by Maryland. The laws thus adopted consisted of so much of the common law of England as was applicable to the situation of this country; of the bills of rights, constitution, and statutes of Virginia and Maryland, modified by the constitution and laws of the United States, and, also, (in regard to that part of the District which was ceded by the state of Maryland,) of such of the English statutes as existed at the time of the first emer-

tion to Maryland, "and which, by experience, had been found applicable to their local and other circumstances, and of such others as had been since made in England or Great Britain, and had been introduced, used, and practiced by the courts of law or equity" of that state.

To ascertain, therefore, what was the existing statute law, it was necessary to know what statutes of England, enacted before the first emigration to Maryland, had by experience been found applicable to the local and other circumstances of the country, and what statutes since made in England or Great Britain, had been introduced, used and practiced by the courts of law or equity in that state: and also what statutes of England or Great Britain had been expressly re-enacted by the State of Virginia.

To obtain this knowledge with as much certainty as the nature of the case will permit, it was necessary to examine minutely the English and British statutes, and compare them with the statutes enacted by Virginia and Maryland.

From these three systems of statutes, to select such as were most important and best adapted to the circumstances of the District; to supply such defects as were discovered, and to combine the whole into one code—required more deliberation, and occupied more time, than was anticipated.

These circumstances must account for the apparent delay in making the present report, which is even now submitted with much diffidence.

With high consideration, the undersigned has the honor to be, Sir, your obedient servant,

W. CRANCH.

The Hon. HENRY CLAY,

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

Nov. 9, 1818.

## Congress of the United States.

SENATE.

*Friday, November 27.*

The engrossed bill to increase the salaries of certain officers of the government, was read the third time, and the blanks filled with 6000 dollars as the salary of the Secretaries of the State, Treasury, War and Navy Departments, 3,500 dollars for that of the Attorney General, and 4000 dollars for that of the Postmaster General.

(The bill passed, and was sent to the other House for concurrence.)

*Monday, November 30.*

Mr. Tichenor submitted the following resolution for consideration:

*Resolved*, That the committee on the Judiciary be instructed to inquire into the expediency of changing the present judicial system of the United States, so far as to provide for the gradual diminution of the number of the Judges who at present compose the Supreme Court; for the restricting of the functions and duties of the Judges of that court to the holding the sessions thereof, and the other duties incidental thereto; of establishing and organizing a Circuit Court in each state in the Union, and of providing for the appointment of a competent number of Judges for the holding of the said courts.

Mr. Burill, from the Judiciary committee, made an unfavorable report on the petition of Matthew Lyon, of Kentucky, praying for the reimbursement of a fine imposed on him, under the sedition law, in 1798; which report was read,

Mr. Sanford submitted the following resolution for consideration:

*Resolved*, That the committee of finance inquire into the expediency of continuing in force the act of the 29th of April, 1816, regulating the currency of certain foreign coins within the United States.

A message was received from the President of the United States, by Mr. J. J. Monroe, his Secretary, transmitting, in compliance with the resolution of the Senate of the 17th of April last, a report from the Navy Department, of the state of the Navy Pension Fund.

The message, the report, and the accompanying documents, were referred to the committee on naval affairs.

The resolution offered by Mr. Burrill, on the 26th inst. was taken up and agreed to.

The joint resolution for a monument over the remains of General Washington, was taken up and referred to a select committee, composed of Messrs. Goldsborough, Roberts and Burrill.

Mr. Burrill, from the committee on the Judiciary, reported a bill to provide for the more convenient organization of the courts of the United States, and the appointment of Circuit Judges, which was read and passed to a second reading.

*Tuesday, December 1.*

Mr. Daggett, agreeably to notice given yesterday, and leave being obtained, introduced a bill further to extend the judicial system of the United States, which was read and passed to a second reading.

Mr. Forsyth laid on the table the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the committee on Finance be instructed to inquire into the expediency of prohibiting the exportation of gold and silver and copper coins of the United States.

The resolution offered yesterday by Mr. Sanford, was taken up and agreed to.

The bill authorizing the appointment of additional clerks for the War Department, was taken up and ordered to a third reading.

The resolution for the admission of the State of Illinois into the Union, was read the third time, passed, and returned to the other House.

*Wednesday, December 2.*

Mr. Goldsborough, from the select committee to whom was referred the resolution for erecting a monument over the remains of general Washington, reported a bill as a substitute for the resolution, but containing precisely the same provisions.

Mr. Sanford, from the committee on Naval Affairs, to whom was referred the inquiry moved by Mr. Macon, on the 26th ult. reported a resolution directing a survey of certain points on the coast of North Carolina, to ascertain the practicability of erecting light houses, beacons, or buoys thereon; which was passed to a second reading.

Mr. Ruggles laid on the table the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the committee on military affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of making provision by law for clothing the army of the United States in domestic manufactures.

Mr. Dickerson, according to notice, having obtained leave, introduced a resolution proposing to amend the Constitution of the United States so far as to make the mode of electing electors of President and Vice President of the United States, and of Representatives to Congress, un-

form [by districts] throughout the Union, which was read and passed to a second reading.

Mr. Leake submitted a resolution directing an inquiry into the expediency of amending the land laws so as to divide the fractions into quarter sections, where practicable, and to authorize the sale thereof; and also to direct the re-sale of lands which have reverted for non-payment, unless the same shall have been sold at private sale within six months after the reversion, for a price not less than that first given.

The resolution offered by Mr. Tichenor, on the 30th ult. respecting the re-organization of the courts of the United States, was, by permission, withdrawn.

The resolution offered yesterday by Mr. Forsyth, to enquire into the expediency of prohibiting the exportation of United States' coins, was taken up and agreed to.

Mr. Daggett, agreeably to notice, and having obtained leave, introduced a bill more effectually to provide for the punishment of certain crimes against the United States, and for other purposes.

The bill authorizing the appointment of additional clerks for the War Department, and the resolution authorizing the members of each house to transmit certain documents free of postage, were severally read the third time and passed, (the latter with an amendment embracing any other message or documents which may be communicated by the Executive during the session, as well as those at the commencement.)

*Thursday, December 3.*

The President communicated a report of the Secretary of the Treasury, made in obedience to a resolution of the Senate of the 16th of April last, in relation to the offices of the customs which it may be proper to suppress.

The following message was received from the President of the United States, by Mr. J. J. Monroe, his secretary:

*To the Senate of the United States.*

I transmit to the Senate copies of such of the documents referred to in the message of the 17th ultimo as have been prepared since that period. They contain a copy of the reports of Mr. Rodney and Mr. Graham, two of the commissioners to South America, who returned first from the mission, and of the papers connected with those reports. They also present a full view of the operations of our troops employed in the Seminole war in Florida.

It would have been gratifying to me to have communicated, with the message, all the documents referred to in it, but, as two of our commissioners from South America made their reports a few days only before the meeting of Congress, and the third on the day of its meeting, it was impossible to transmit, at that time, more than one copy of the two reports first made.

The residue of the documents will be communicated as soon as they are prepared.

JAMES MONROE.

*December 2, 1818.*

[The papers accompanying the message, so far as they relate to South America, are those which were previously laid before the other House; and, so far as respects the Seminole war, of letters between the War Department and general Gaines, and the War Department and general Jackson, and of the proceedings of the court martial for the trial of Arbuthnot and Ambrist.]

The message and documents were ordered to lie on the table.

The following message was also received from the President of the United States:

*To the Senate of the United States.*

In compliance with a resolution of the Senate, of the 25th of last month, requesting to be furnished with such information as may be possessed by the Executive, touching the execution of so much of the first article of the late treaty of peace and amity between his Britannic majesty and the United States, as relates to the restitution of slaves, and which has not heretofore been communicated, I lay before the Senate a report made by the Secretary of State, on the 1st inst. in relation to that subject.

JAMES MONROE.

*December 2, 1818.*

[ENCLOSURE.]

*Department of State, Dec. 1, 1818.*

The Secretary of State, to whom has been referred the resolution of the Senate, of the 25th ultimo, requesting information not heretofore communicated, relating to the restitution of slaves, conformably to the first article of the late treaty of peace between the United States and Great Britain, has the honor of reporting to the President of the United States, that the difference of construction given by the two governments to that part of the first article of the treaty, and the claim of the citizens of the United States to indemnity for slaves carried away contrary to its stipulations, form one of the subjects of negotiation now pending in England; which negotiation having commenced towards the close of the month of August, no report of its progress has yet been received at this Department, from the Plenipotentiaries, to whom, on the part of the United States, it has been committed.

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.

The message and documents were read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The "bill to provide for the more convenient organization of the courts of the United States, and the appointment of circuit judges," was read a second time.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

*Friday, November 27.*

The Speaker laid before the House a report from the Secretary of War, of the names and places of residence of the several persons placed upon the pension list, under the act of last session, granting pensions to revolutionary soldiers; which was read and ordered to be printed.

On motion of Mr. Spencer, it was ordered that the testimony taken under commissions issued by the Commissioner of Claims, and all other testimony in relation to the claims for remuneration for property captured and destroyed on the Niagara frontier during the late war, which were before the committee of claims during the last session, be referred to the same committee.

On motion of Mr. Lowndes, it was

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to inquire whether it be expedient to make any amendment in the laws which regulate the coins of the United States and foreign coins.

On motion of Mr. T. M. Nelson, it was

*Resolved*, That the military committee be instructed to inquire into the expediency of amending the act passed at the last session of Congress, approved April 14, 1813, entitled "An act regu-

lating the staff of the army," so as to do away the offices of Surgeon General and Assistant Surgeon General; and to have two Surgeon Generals, corresponding to the office of Assistant Surgeon General, with their present pay, emolument, and duty, who shall make their returns, through the Adjutant and Inspector General, to the Secretary of War, as they now do through the Surgeon General, and that they have leave to report by bill or otherwise.

*Monday, November 30.*

Mr. Smith, of Maryland, from the committee of Ways and Means, reported a bill in addition to the act of 1799, to regulate the collection of the revenue; [extending the time of taking the oath (to twenty days) in cases of exportation of merchandise entitled to the benefit of drawback] and a bill for the relief of Denton, Little & Co. and of Harmon Kendricks, of New York; which bills were severally twice read and committed.

On motion of Mr. Herbert, it was,

*Resolved*, That the clerk of this House be authorized and directed to contract with any person or persons for printing of two hundred and fifty copies of the code of jurisprudence for the District of Columbia, prepared and reported to Congress at the present session by the Chief Justice of the said district.

Mr. Butler, from the select committee, appointed on that subject, reported a bill for the relief of Major General John Stark, [providing for placing him on the pension list, with a pension of — dollars per month.]

On motion of Mr. Butler, the blank was filled with the word *sixty*, and, thus amended, the bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, *nem. con.*

The Speaker laid before the House a report from the Secretary of War, on sundry petitions for pensions and the increase of pensions, made in compliance with the third and fifth sections of the act of 10th April, 1806, which report was referred to the committee on pensions.

Mr. Whitman offered for consideration the following motion:

*Resolved*, That the committee on Revolutionary Pensions be instructed to inquire into the propriety of granting pensions to such of the soldiers of the revolution as served on continental establishment at least one year in the whole, though at different periods of the war, and as would have been entitled to the same, by virtue of the act of last session, had they continued in service uninterrupted for the term of nine months.

On the question of agreeing to the resolution, it was decided in the negative—*ayes 45, noes 69.*

The resolution offered by Mr. Spencer, of N. Y., relative to the Bank of the United States, having been taken into consideration, it was, after some discussion, and at the instance of Mr. Lowndes, of S. C. modified so as to read as follows, in which shape it was passed:

*Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to inspect the books and examine into the proceedings of the Bank of the United States, to report thereon, and to report whether the provisions of its charter have been violated or not; that the said committee have leave to meet in the city of Philadelphia, and remain there as long as may be necessary; that they shall have power to send for persons and papers, and to employ the requisite clerks; the expense of which shall be audited and

allowed by the committee of accounts, and paid out of the contingent fund of this House.

*Tuesday, December 1.*

Mr. Poindexter, from the committee on the Public Lands, reported a bill to prohibit the Choctaw tribe of Indians from settling or hunting on the lands of the United States west of the Mississippi; which was twice read and committed.

On motion of Mr. Sawyer, the committee on Military Affairs were instructed to inquire whether any, and, if any, what alterations are necessary to be made in the act "to amend the act making further provision for military services during the late war."

Mr. Linn, of New Jersey, offered the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the committee appointed on so much of the Message of the President of the United States as relates to the unlawful introduction of slaves into the United States, be instructed to inquire into the expediency of passing a law prohibiting the migration or transportation of slaves or servants of color from any state to any other part of the United States, in cases where, by the laws of such state, such transportation is prohibited; and that they have leave to report by bill or otherwise.

The question on the passage of the resolve was taken, and decided in the negative—*ayes 60, noes 63.*

The bill from the Senate for increasing the salaries of certain officers of government was twice read and committed.

*Wednesday, December 2.*

Mr. Smith, of Md. from the committee of ways and means, to whom was referred an inquiry into the expediency of repealing the duty on imported salt, made a report adverse to the expediency of the abolition of the duty, which was committed to a committee of the whole.

Mr. Johnson, of Ky. from the committee on military affairs, reported a bill authorizing the establishment of a national armory on the western waters.

The Speaker laid before the House a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting an estimate of the appropriations proposed for the service of the year 1819, which was referred to the committee of ways and means.

The Speaker also laid before the House a letter addressed to him, by Edward De Kraft, printer for Congress, remonstrating against the alleged violation of his contract with the clerk to do all the printing ordered by the House, by the resolution of the 30th ult. directing the printing by contract of the code of laws prepared for the District, and claiming said printing as matter of right; which letter was read and ordered to be laid on the table.

Mr. Harrison, of Ohio, offered the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That the committee on the public lands be instructed to inquire into the expediency of continuing the act passed at the last session, entitled "an act to suspend for a limited time, the sale or forfeiture of lands for failure in completing the payments thereon;" and also to inquire what further relief it may be proper to give to the persons who are indebted to the United States for the purchase of lands.

Mr. Bryan, of N. C. asked and obtained permission of the House to be excused from serving on the committee appointed to inquire into the

conduct of the Bank of the United States. Mr. B. stated, that, in asking this indulgence, he was not actuated by a desire to shrink from the important duty assigned him, but that he was a stockholder of the institution, and, as such, conceived that delicacy forbade his being one of those appointed to make the investigation ordered by the House—an investigation, upon the result of which the future character and prospects of the institution would mainly depend.

On motion of Mr. Tallmadge, it was

*Resolved*, That the committee on naval affairs be directed to inquire into the expediency of increasing the amount of the security to be hereafter required from navy agents, and also of requiring security to a greater amount from those now in office.

On motion of Mr. Simkins, it was

*Resolved*, That the committee on Post Offices and Post Roads be instructed to inquire into the expediency of increasing the compensation of such post masters as are on the main post route from Washington city, by Augusta, in Georgia, to New Orleans, where there are cross mails, and whose compensations do not exceed a certain sum.

Mr. S. justified the proposed inquiry by advertizing to the unremitting and onerous duties required of certain postmasters, on the main southern post route, and the small and inadequate compensation at present afforded by their emoluments.

The amendment of the Senate to the resolution authorizing the transmission of certain documents free of postage, was taken up and agreed to.

*Thursday, December 3.*

Mr. Burwell was announced as having been appointed on the committee of investigation respecting the Bank of the United States, vice Mr. Bryan, excused.

On motion of Mr. Trimble, the committee on public lands were instructed to inquire whether any, and, if any, what provision ought to be made by law to authorize the emanation of patents to soldiers on furlough at the close of the war, and to whom discharges were not issued, in consequence of their not being ordered to join their respective regiments.

On motion of Mr. Poindexter, the Secretary of the Treasury was directed to lay before the House of Representatives a statement of the sales of public lands, in the Alabama territory, at public and private sale, specifying the date of such sales, and the period at which the last payment will become due, and, also, the aggregate amount of money paid to the receiver of public moneys at Huntsville in said territory, and the description of Bank paper, if any, which is receivable there, in payment for the public lands.

On motion of Mr. Williams, of North Carolina, it was ordered, that all petitions presented to the House, and committed at the last session, from the consideration of which, without having decided on them, for the want of time, the several committees to which they were referred were discharged, be considered as again referred to the said committees, respectively, on the suggestion of any member to the clerk of the House.

#### EDITOR'S CABINET.

*History of Congress*—Mr. Spencer, of New-York, has exhibited a vigilance and a firmness in

relation to his motion for an inquiry into the conduct of the Bank of the United States, which entitle him to the thanks of the public at large. He called up his resolution for consideration on Friday, the 27th ultimo, but did not succeed: on Monday, the 30th ult. however, he was more fortunate, and it was, on that day, taken up in form by the House of Representatives. On this occasion Mr. Lowndes, of South-Carolina, stood forth the friend of the Bank. He palliated all its misconduct, and in substance maintained the doctrine that a departure from the injunctions of the act of incorporation is no violation of the charter of the institution! The people will be quite surprised to hear that so enlightened a Representative has taken so untenable a stand; and they may well be astonished and alarmed at it. The speech of Mr. Lowndes on Monday was very subtle. It was not a positive vindication of the Bank, but a series of soothsaying, apologetic statements. In one thing, however, Mr. Lowndes greatly overshot the mark.—He dwelt upon the impossibility of equalizing the exchanges in different parts of the country, and referred to the Bank of England in support of his argument. But does not Mr. L. know that the question is not one of mere exchanges? It never was expected, by reasonable men, that the Bank of the United States would entirely equalize exchanges: but it was expected that it would furnish a *uniform currency*; that is, a paper money that would pass generally throughout the Union. It is immaterial to society how this is effected; whether by making the branch notes payable at all the offices of discount and deposites and the mother bank alike, or by concert and amicable understanding with solvent state banks. The Bank of the United States does neither the one thing nor the other. Having overrated itself, it suddenly changes its system of operation, pounces upon the state banks, and throws the whole paper system into confusion. This could not have happened had the Bank adhered to the injunctions of the act of incorporation; it could not have happened if the capital had been paid up with the proportion of specie enjoined by law. Mr. Lowndes gets very awkwardly over this bold breach of the charter. The charter, he knows, provided that of the \$ 28,000,000 authorized to be subscribed to the capital of the Bank by individuals, \$ 7,000,000 were to be paid in specie, and \$ 21,000,000 in the funded debt of the United States: he knows, also, that the whole amount of specie was not paid in; but that the Bank, having prematurely gone into operation, lent certain of the stockholders bank notes which were paid in as capital in lieu of the specie required by law. It is in vain that Mr. Lowndes has observed that the stockholders were as much entitled to

borrow money as other people; that is not the point. Let them borrow as much as the directors choose to lend them. The point is, could they lawfully pay in, as part of the capital, bank notes instead of specie? Mr. Lowndes will not risk the reputation of his understanding by distinctly saying that they could. It will avail him nothing to allege that, the Bank having lent its notes, it could not refuse to take them again for debts due to it; for not only could it refuse, in relation to its capital, but it was solemnly bound to refuse by the act of incorporation. If a man were to owe Mr. L. \$ 1,000 payable in specie, and were to pay him \$ 500 in specie, and then borrow Mr. L.'s promissory note for \$ 500 and return him that note, as full payment, would he have \$ 1,000 in specie? We think not. And if Mr. L. had contracted obligations with other men to the amount of \$ 1,000 which he had engaged to pay with the specie to be received from the former, would he not fail in that engagement to the amount of \$ 500? And to raise these \$ 500 which ought to have been paid to him by the first mentioned debtor, he would be obliged to tease and worry his friends. This is the situation of the Bank of the United States. It is even worse. The stock having originally got, for the most part, into the hands of speculators, they puffed it up to an amazing price above par, and then sold out to unsuspecting purchasers, who are now left in the lurch. No, no. The people are not to be amused with a song about exchanges. Exchanges must be left to the dexterity of the merchants. The Bank must be compelled to furnish the community with an uniform currency. It must cease to persecute honest state banks, or it must make its own notes payable equally at all its branches. Nothing short of this will do; and as Mr. Lowndes is upon the committee of inquiry, notwithstanding his speech we hope he will zealously second Mr. Spencer in the investigation proposed. One thing Mr. Lowndes succeeded in: he effected, in a very plausible manner, a material alteration in Mr. Spencer's resolution: he induced the House to change it from a *particular* to a *general* inquiry, which is a very important variation. The giving the committee a *carte blanche*, as Mr. L. adroitly termed it, sounds well; but we all know that a general investigation admits of a general report; whereas, had the resolution been adopted as Mr. Spencer first offered it, the report must, of necessity, have been *specific* as to all the points of examination. The resolution, as modified and finally passed by the House, will be found under our regular head of Congressional proceedings. The committee to whom it was referred, consists of Messrs. Spencer, Lowndes, McLane, Bryan, and Tyler. Mr. Bryan, however, on account of his being

a stockholder in the bank, has declined serving on the committee, and Mr. Burwell, of Virginia, has been selected in his place.

Much of the time of the House of Representatives, during the past week, has been occupied by the claim of the heirs of Caron de Beaumarchais. The nature of the claim is briefly this: Beaumarchais was, during our revolutionary war, a contractor for military supplies to the United States, from which he reaped his profits. The king of France presented the United States with a million of livres, and it was all along supposed that this million passed through the hands of Beaumarchais, who, it is proved, received it, and was invested in part of the supplies sent by him to America. But, behold! when he came to settle his accounts at our treasury, he demands a million of livres additional for himself; and tells us that the million which the king presented was expended for a secret political service, of which he satisfied his most Christian majesty! Thus, according to the heirs, we had the million and we had it not. We received a present, but know not what became of it; and nobody knew except Beaumarchais, and he either could not, or would not, tell. Several congressional reports have been made with respect to this claim; some against it, and some in favor of it: but one fact deserves notice, and that is, that payment has been uniformly refused by those of our public officers who lived nearest to the time of the transactions in which Beaumarchais was engaged, and who were best acquainted with all the circumstances of the case. We have looked carefully into the matter, and are decidedly of opinion that the heirs of Beaumarchais have no just title to the sum demanded nor to any part of it. The subject was still under discussion in the House when this number of the National Register went to press.

*Sovereigns at Aix-la-Chapelle.*—We have no authentic news direct from Aix-la-Chapelle. From "Paris" we have received the information which will be found under that head in this week's National Register. It has been stated in the newspapers that the French legation at the city of Washington has received advices to the same effect. We may thence conclude, with considerable certainty, that the allied army of occupation was entirely withdrawn from the territory of France on Monday last. On this important event we most cordially congratulate M. HYDE DE NEUVILLE, who may now, in reality, be regarded as the diplomatic representative of a powerful, enlightened, and *independent* nation.

Whilst their ministers are transacting the serious part of the business on which the monarchs

have assembled, the sovereigns themselves are occupied with scenes of pleasure. Visits, dinners, and balls, are the prevalent recreations. The emperor of Russia and the king of Prussia are the principal figures at these merry meetings. The following article, under the date of Aix-la-Chapelle, October 5, 1818, will give the reader some idea of the gaiety and *sans souci* of the imperial and royal society assembled there at that date. This may be regarded as the *frivolity* of regal politics, which will pass off and be soon forgotten; but the evil or good growing out of the sober business of the meeting will have an influence on the affairs of Europe, and perhaps of the world, for many generations. Emperors and kings *dance*; but their subjects must *pay the piper*.

"Aix-la-Chapelle, Oct. 5, 1818.—On the 3d the emperor Alexander dined with the king of Prussia, and visited the British duke of Kent. In the evening there was a grand ball. The crowd was immense. The emperor and the king figured in almost all the dances. His imperial majesty danced with lady Castlereagh, the duchess of Kent, Mrs. Harvey, (the fair American) and with several of the German princesses. The duke of Wellington, lord Castlereagh, the duke of Kent, and all the high Russian officers, danced with the above ladies, particularly with lady Castlereagh."

*Spanish Ministry.*—By reference to the head of "Spain," at page 361, the reader will find that Messrs. Pizarro and Garay, the former secretary of state for foreign affairs, the latter secretary of the treasury, have been very unceremoniously dismissed from office. What their offence has been we are not accurately informed. Rumor states that they were at the head of a party favorable to the restoration of Charles IV. and the de-thronement of his son, Ferdinand VII. and it has been, moreover, alleged that they were in the *Russian* interest. The new ministry, at the head of which is the insolent and unprincipled Yrujo, formerly the minister of Spain to the United States, is asserted to be under *British* influence. From this connexion we have little of good to expect for the United States. We have felt that connexion in the Seminole war. We have seen the Spanish officers at St. Marks and Pensacola acting in concert with the Indians, and with the British agents Arbuthnot and Ambristie. The same concert, we have no doubt, subsists at Madrid; and although we may not see the machinery of it, we shall feel the effects of it. In the dismissal of Pizarro, indeed, we have nothing to regret. As a minister of injustice he was equally efficient as Yrujo; but, then, he had no personal *pique* to gratify. Yrujo is personally hostile to the United States; but he is a vain, pompous, weak man, and his power in the Spanish cabinet will

not last. Beyond question he has made himself a tool of Great Britain, and has, for the moment, succeeded by a despicable intrigue. His reign will be short, depend on it; for Spain is in a condition in which her population will not repose in quiet, and from which she cannot be ameliorated by such petty intellects as that of the little gasconading marquis. These are the reflections which offer themselves at the moment.—But suppose that we are entirely mistaken. Suppose that the marquis Yrujo, finding that he cannot keep his place, *turns about*, and endeavors to conciliate the United States: Suppose that, retiring from the foreign office at Madrid, which he occupies "par interim," he should slide into the place of Don Luis de Onis here? Ah! Don Luis, be thou careful, lest this marquis of the house of Yrujo play thee a trick.—"Graviora Manent."

*The Banks.*—The state banks at Cincinnati, Ohio, have suspended specie payments; so has the bank of Washington, in the state of Pennsylvania. *So they go.* The Bank of the United States has driven them to this necessity. In this war of banks the people are sure to suffer. The Bank of the United States and the state banks are like acid and alkali: whenever they come in contact, a great fermentation takes place. Which will conquer?

*Official Notices, &c. &c.*—MR. GALLATIN, who had been appointed, in conjunction with Mr. Rush, to negotiate a new commercial convention with Great Britain, and who had repaired to London for that purpose, has returned to Paris. It is not publicly understood whether our two ministers succeeded or failed in their efforts.

MR. CAMPBELL, the American minister to Russia, has arrived at St. Petersburg.

*Recapitulation of the number of persons placed on the Pension List of the United States, under the act of 18th March, 1818, at the respective rates of eight and twenty dollars per month, up to the 16th day of November, 1818, inclusive.*

	No. at 8.	at 20	Tots.
New Hampshire,	131	14	145
Massachusetts,	806	71	877
Connecticut,	709	66	775
Rhode Island,	66	19	85
Vermont,	291	24	315
New York,	1,061	110	1,171
New Jersey,	249	32	281
Pennsylvania,	278	40	318
Delaware,	4	4	8
Maryland,	123	24	147
Virginia,	74	8	82
North Carolina,	11	3	14
South Carolina,	13	4	17
Georgia,	3	1	4
Kentucky,	25	3	28
Ohio,	49	12	61
Indiana,	2		2
Michigan territory,		1	1
District of Columbia,	34	7	41
District of Maine,	39	5	44
	3,981	451	4,432